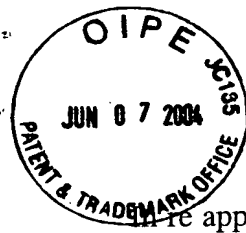


IFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of:

ABID GHUMAN et al.

Group Art Unit: 2121

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: 10/708,817

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: METHOD OF DESIGNING A MANUFACTURING
ASSEMBLY LINE

Attorney Docket No.: 202-1171 and 202-1172 (FMC 1627 PUS)

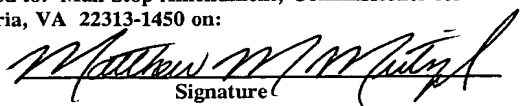
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB08A and/or SB08B are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner.


While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the reference(s) are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8		
I hereby certify that this paper, including all enclosures referred to herein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:		
<u>June 3, 2004</u> Date of Deposit	<u>Matthew M. Mietzel</u> Name of Person Signing	 Signature

If the filing date of this application is on or before June 30, 2003, a copy of each reference listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB08A and/or SB08B is included herewith. If this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of any cited U.S. patent/application references have not been included. Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Abid Ghuman et al.

By: 
Matthew M. Mietzel
Reg. No. 46,929
Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Date: June 3, 2004

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1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
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Fax: 248-358-3351



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known

<h2 style="margin: 0;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 0;"><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				Application Number	10/708,817
				Filing Date	March 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Abid Ghuman et al.
				Group Art Unit	2121
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	202-1171&202-1172 (FMC1627PUS)

[illegible]

Examiner Initials ⁷	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁸
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
			JP 2-220783		Ohara KK	09-03-1990		
			JP 4-84694		Japan	03-17-1992		
			EP 1 225 003	A2	Progressive Tool	12-19-2001		
			EP 0 133 456	A2	Rolf Kölblin	05-18-1984		
			EP 0 003 024	B1	Maschinenfabrik	12-07-1978		
			EP 0 044 565	B1	Kearney & Trecker	07-21-1981		
			EP 0 446 518	A1	Kaczmarek, James	09-11-1990		
			EP 0 346 816	B1	Nissan Motor Co.	06-12-1989		
			WO 00/43845		ABB Research Ltd.	11-16-1999		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/708,817
				Filing Date	March 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Abid Ghuman et al.
				Group Art Unit	2121
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	202-1171&202-1172 (FMC1627PUS)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

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Substitute for Form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/708,817
				Filing Date	March 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Abid Ghuman et al.
				Group Art Unit	2121
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	202-1171&1172 (FMC1627PUS)

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Hans Kurt Toenschhoff; Axel Schnuelle, High Productive And Reconfigurable Manufacturing Systems (HIPARMS)	
		C. Jarvis, Cell Technology and Flexible Manufacturing Systems, http://sol.brunel.ac.uk/~jarvis/bola/jit/cellsfms.html	
		Alliance Introduces New Line of Modular Manufacturing Systems, www.allianceauto.com/news3,1.html Spring 1996	
		Models for Specification and Control of Flexible Manufacturing Systems, www.cs.chalmers.se/~andreass/cfms/Bilder_fran_Lulea/index.html 3/27/97	
		Gary S. Vasilash, Honda's Hat Trick, Automotive Design Production, www.autofieldguide.com/articles/article_print.cfm	
		An American in Graz, Daimler Chrysler Totally Integrated Automotive Special 2000	
		John Sprovieri, The Perils and Profits of Assembly Cells - Assembly, Business News Publishing Company, July, 2002	
		James V. Higgins, The Detroit News, Honda Continues to Fine Tune the Art of Automobile Making, 7/28/02	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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